Breaking News

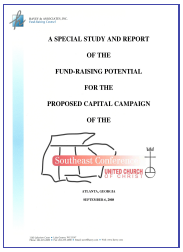
Annual Meeting Updates

We will have the registration materials for the Annual Meeting posted on our web site soon. As our plans develop, we are pleased to announce that **Donna Allen** professor of homiletics at Lancaster Theological Seminary, will be the preacher at the Theology Among the People (TAP) Commencement on Thursday evening, June 11th. In addition to having **Steve Sterner**, **Acting Executive Minister of Local Church Ministries of the United Church of Christ and active in Peace Congregational UCC, Clemson, SC**, as our preacher on Friday evening, June 12th, will be welcoming the choir of **Victory Church, Stone Mountain**. The Victory Choir has been with us in the past, and received an enthusiastic reception. We have word that we will be joined at our Annual Meeting by **Alice Hunt,** the newly installed president of **Chicago Theological Seminary**, **Ava Blackwell, Director of Admissions at Lancaster Theological Seminary**, **Phyllis Byrd**, a Global Ministries Partnership missionary in Kenya, and **Mary Seymour of the Cornerstone Fund,** a ministry of Local Church Ministries. We will be looking for people to volunteer from the Atlanta area UCC churches, who are serving as our hosts. If you would like to help, contact Gerri **ghudson@secucc.org**, and she will direct you to the volunteer coordinator for your congregation.

Interested in the current financial status and challenges of the Southeast Conference? We are posting comments and reflections following the end of each quarter of the year. You can view these and articles by **clicking here**.

We received a letter of **thanks** from the **Pension Boards of the UCC for the $11,420** that they received from the congregations of the Southeast Conference to the Christmas Fund which supports the Board for Ministerial Assistance. If you are interested in how those funds are used, you can go to **www.christmasfund.org**.

SEC Capital Campaign Update


A SPECIAL STUDY AND REPORT
OF THE
FUND-RAISING POTENTIAL
FOR THE
PROPOSED CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
OF THE

The Southeast Conference has engaged Steve Havey of Havey & Associates to work with us as we explore the possibility of a Conference Capital Campaign. He has completed an extensive Needs Assessment Survey which he presented to the Board of Directors at our September meeting. If you would like to read the assessment, **click here**.

TAP Goes to Synod ... Again!

For the second General Synod in a row, through the generosity of the Carpenter Foundation, the Southeast Conference will send five Theology Among the People (TAP) participants to General Synod 27 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. This is one of the best ways to learn about and experience the UCC -- in worship, fellowship, and governance -- in one of its most diverse and covenantal expressions.

The parameters of this opportunity are as follow:

1. You must be an active member of a current TAP group or a graduate of TAP. (Preference will be given to current members and to those who have not attended General Synod in the past. All are encouraged to apply.)

2. You must be able to attend the entire Synod (June 26 - 30, 2009).

Listen to the 2008 Podcasts with leaders making a difference in the UCC.

Theology Among the People
Check out our Lay Theology Program called "TAP", Theology Among the People. **Click here.**

Need books, videos or other resources for your church? Contact the Resource Connection **here**.

The Nehemiah Initiative
Are you interested in starting a new church or being a part of a new church start? Click **here** to learn more about our Church Development program.

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3. You must be able to provide for your own meals and amenities while at Synod.

4. You must be able to provide your own transportation to and from a metropolitan airport close to your home.

5. You are asked to contribute $200 to help cover the costs of the event (payable to Southeast Conference and due at time of confirmation of your participation).

6. The Southeast Conference will cover the following costs (less $200 – see #5 above) for those who are chosen to go:

* Registration to General Synod
* Transportation to and from Synod
* Hotel costs while attending Synod (double occupancy)
* One shared meal for TAPpers at Synod

If you are interested and have these dates available, please email Kathy Clark (**kclark@secucc.org**) on or before April 1st, 2009 indicating in a few paragraphs why you want to attend this Synod and how you will share your experiences with your TAP group and/or your congregation.

Applicants will be notified of their status by April 15th.

For further information, please contact Kathy Clark, Associate Conference Minister and Director of TAP, at **kclark@secucc.org**.

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